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Message Text

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INFO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 187190

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING ISLAMABAD 7882 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAIRO JIDDA TEHRAN TRIPOLI AUG 3, 1977 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 7882

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PK, LY
SUBJECT: PAKISTAN REJECTS LIBYAN REQUEST

1. IRANIAN AMB ZANDFARD TOLD ME IN STRICT CONFIDENCE THAT LAST WEEK AT HEIGHT OF LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN CONFLICT QADDAFI SENT AN URGENT MESSAGE TO PAKISTAN HEAD OF GOVT GEN. ZIA REQUESTING (A) THAT PAKISTANI PILOTS NOW ASSIGNED TO LIBYAN AIR FORCE SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PARTICIPATE IN "DEFENSE" OF LIBYA AGAINST EGYPTIAN INCURSIONS AND (B) THAT LIBYA IS IN URGENT NEED OF (UNSPECIFIED) ARMS THAT PAKISTAN SHOULD SUPPLY.
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2. ZANDFARD WAS TOLD THIS BY ACTING FONMIN AGHA SHAHI ON INSTRUCTIONS OF GEN. ZIA. SHAHI SAID GOP MET IN INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS FOR TWO DAYS AND DECIDED TO TURN DOWN BOTH REQUESTS. GOP IS NOW WAITING IN TREPIDATION TO SEE WHAT QADDAFI'S REACTION WILL BE. GOP HAS ALSO INFORMED IRANIAN AMB HERE, WANTING BOTH IRAN AND SAG TO BE AWARE OF

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QADDAFI REQUEST AND GOP REACTIONG

3. AS SIDEBAR TO ABOVE, AGHA SHAHI COMPLAINED TO ZANDFARD THAT PAKISTAN IS IN VERY BAD STRAITS AS REGARDS WEAPONRY. I EXPLAINED TO ZANDFARD THAT WHILE THIS MAY BE TRUE IN COMPARISON WITH INDIA, USG IN LAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS HAS AGREED TO SELL SUCH THINGS AS AIM-9 MISSILES, TOW MISSILES, ETC. AND USG REMAINS WILLING TO DISCUSS OTHER SALES INCLUDING F-5E'S.

4. SUBSEQUENTLY ZANDFARD PHONED AND ASKED ME NOT TO REPORT THIS "YET" TO TEHRAN. AMEMBASSY TEHRAN SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSION WITH GOI AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING.

5. COMMENT: ADDRESSEES WILL REALIZE THAT RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR PAKISTANI PILOTS IN LIBYAN AIR FORCE HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF CONTROVERSY WITH LIBYA BEFORE, NOTABLY AT TIME OF LIBYAN DECLARATION OF 200-MILE OFFSHORE TERRITORY. EVEN THOUGH GOP LOODS TO QADDAFI FOR CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL AID AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SUPPORT, CONSIDERING ISLAMABAD'S DESIRE TO STAY OUT OF INTER-ARAB DISPUTES AND ITS DEPENDENCE ON AID FROM THE MORE CONSERVATIVE ISLAMIC STATES, ONE WONDERS WHY IT TOOK TWO DAYS TO DECIDE IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR PAKISTAN TO APPPEAR TO BE SIDING WITH LIBYA.
HUMMEL UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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